

SENIOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR*Class Definition*

Under general supervision, leads and participates in the operation of wastewater treatment plant equipment and facilities on an assigned shift.

Distinguishing Characteristic

Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator is the lead level class in the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator series. An incumbent provides lead direction and participates in a range of duties including the most difficult operational work assignments requiring the application of independent judgment on an assigned shift. Incumbents may be required to assume the duties and responsibilities of a “Shift Supervisor” as defined by the State Water Resources Control Board. This class is distinguished from Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator II in that incumbents of the latter perform journey level assignments and are not assigned on-going lead responsibility. It is distinguished from the Assistant Chief of Operations in that incumbents of the latter are responsible for directing and coordinating the multi-shift activities of the plant’s operations section. The incumbent may be assigned to work any shift, weekends and holidays.

Typical Tasks

(An incumbent may not be assigned all duties listed, nor do the examples cover all duties which may be assigned.)

Reviews the work of subordinates to ensure accuracy and completeness.

Provides input for performance evaluations and disciplinary actions.

Provides for and participates in the training of new employees.

Provides lead direction and participates in controlling the treatment of wastewater and sludges through the operation of pumps, motors, and valves utilizing manual, automatic and programmable systems.

Provides lead direction, monitors and controls the performance of wastewater unit processes by a variety of methods, including visual observation, physical measurement, sampling, testing, data collection/analysis, and mathematical calculations in order to meet regulatory discharge requirements.

Provides lead direction and collects representative samples from various plant flows and unit processes for laboratory analysis.

Makes necessary adjustments to plant equipment by interpreting the reading of meters, gauges, and other control and measuring devices.

Utilizes a local area computer network and distributed control system in the routine operating and monitoring of the treatment facility and the collection and maintenance of plant operational data.

May be responsible and accountable for an assigned shift or process.

Trains and instructs subordinate employees in the performance of their duties; ensures compliance with safety procedures.

Monitors and controls plant flows using related instrumentation and equipment.

Performs minor routine preventive maintenance, including lubrication of plant equipment, to maintain operating efficiency.

Maintains proper appearance and cleanliness of equipment and facilities.

May operate an on-site electrical power generation facility.

Prepares and maintains records on shift activities and plant operations.

Operates other related systems such as a winery stillage waste disposal facility and a water reclamation system.

Evaluates analysis of water, wastewater, and treatment plant products to maintain technical control over wastewater treatment processes.

Performs related duties as required.

Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills

Thorough knowledge of the occupational hazards and safety precautions related to the operation of wastewater treatment plants.

Thorough knowledge of the operation and maintenance of electric motors, pumps, and other mechanical/electrical equipment related to wastewater treatment.

Thorough knowledge of wastewater plant physical characteristics including location and configuration of piping and valves in order to provide more efficient operation of the facilities.

Considerable knowledge of confined space hazards, procedures, and safety requirements.

Considerable knowledge of the wastewater disposal infiltration system and off-site reuse distribution.

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Considerable knowledge of the characteristics and safety requirements of the use of various chemicals used in the wastewater treatment industry, e.g. chlorine, ferric/ferrous chloride, polymer, etc.

Knowledge of the theory and operation of the various types of flow measuring equipment.

Knowledge of regulatory requirements governing discharge, sludge management and disposal, air emissions from unit processes and reclamation.

Knowledge of the principles of chemistry as related to wastewater treatment.

Knowledge of wastewater process control and associated mathematical calculations.

Proficiency in the use of a distributed control system in the routine operating and monitoring of the treatment facility and associated report generation.

Ability to lead, assign, review, train, and instruct subordinates engaged in the operation, maintenance, and preventive maintenance of wastewater treatment equipment and machinery.

Ability to gather data, prepare reports, and maintain accurate records pertinent to a wastewater treatment plant.

Ability to interpret and apply laboratory analyses to plant process control and overall plant operation.

Ability to perform routine wastewater and sludge analyses.

Ability to correctly use self-contained breathing apparatus.

Ability to correctly read and interpret wastewater instruments and measuring devices.

Ability to follow oral and written instructions and make brief reports on plant operations.

Skill in the use of tools necessary to operate and maintain pumps and other plant equipment.

Skill in the collection of samples which are representative of various plant flows and unit processes.

Minimum Qualifications

One (1) year of experience equivalent to that gained as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator II with the City of Fresno and possession of a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Grade III Certificate issued by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Necessary Special Requirement

Possession of a valid California Driver*s License at time of appointment.

APPROVED: _____
Director

DATE: _____